

## **Greenmount March 2023**

### **Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

I was back in the back bedroom small cupboard, putting up the coving.

I started with the longer piece over the door. The wall performed a bit of a dog-leg as it approached the outside wall, on the right side, resulting in a sizeable gap between the bottom of the coving and the wall. There wasn't a lot I could do about that, except fill in the gap later. Fortunately, being over the door, inside the cupboard, no-one would see it, so it wasn't a major problem. I glued the piece in place using "No More Nails" and, to my surprise, it actually held the coving in place without any need to support it with pin nails nailed into the plaster.

The next piece was along the short internal wall, joining the piece over the door, to the right of the side piece. That was difficult because the ceiling was not level and to make the joint in the corner, the coving had to be level. The way to achieve that was to remove part of the ceiling. After doing that, having trimmed the original piece to try to make it fit, it was now too short. Fortunately, I had enough spare coving to cut another piece and I eventually made it fit. I glued that in place as well.

I was about to fix the back piece as well when I discovered I was running out of "No More Nails". I telephoned Jenny, who was in Bury with Rachel, to ask her to buy me another pack of three tubes of the glue from Wickes DIY store, which she did.

Meanwhile, I left off and had a shower to remove all the dust and grime.

### **Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023**

I finished off the coving in the back bedroom cupboard, fitting the shorter piece along the outside wall first, which also needed part of the ceiling removing, and then the back piece, which was a snug fit. The only problem was that there was a bit of a gap in the corner, between that piece and the piece on the right, the gap starting about a quarter of the way up the joint and widening towards the top. My guess was that the ceiling was out of true. It wasn't a problem and looked fine when the gap was filled.

I was quite happy with the result and tidied up before lunch.

After lunch we went round to the old school to resume work on testing and pricing the electrical jumble. The next table-top sale was on Saturday.

### **Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023**

Grocery shopping at Unicorn and Waitrose, in the south west of Manchester went well, with lunch, sharing the last gluten-free sandwich, in the café of the latter. We did experience delays at Whitefield, due to road works, in both directions and slow-moving traffic on the M60 ring-road on the way back.

I had spoken with the electrician, Danny, about the new cooker installation in the morning, after arriving at Unicorn and arranged to discuss his inspection of the work involved later in the day or on Monday. Since he did not telephone me again, I made a note to call him again on Monday morning.

I prepared for tomorrow morning's session at the old school and meant to work on my web site revision but spent the evening looking for the work I had done to date, which I eventually found.

### **Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

We were up at about 6 a.m. but didn't make it to the old school until about 8:30 a.m., thanks to my touch of the runs.

We put out the electrical items we had tested and made about £100 on the morning's trading. What we didn't sell went back into storage for the next jumble sale. I brought some items home to test.

After lunch, I tested a Humax TV recorder and a Sony Blu-ray player, both of which were fine.

I spent a good deal of time trying to set up the Ross satellite receiver to record a programme from the 5 Select channel, which was no longer on Freeview, from which I normally recorded programmes. Unfortunately, I could not tune in the 5 Select channel and trying to retune the receiver resulted in my losing all the channels previously stored. I gave up on that and went to work on a tall floor-lamp in which a lady was interested but which needed some repair. That took me to tea-time.

### **Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

The first job of the day was to finish off the lamp on which I was working yesterday and that worked, so I priced it up and put it on one side.

I'd had a text message from the cooker electrician, Danny, to say he would like to have a look at the work tomorrow morning so I spent some time preparing some documentation for him.

After lunch, I finished off the documentation and had intended to resume work on the small cupboard in the back bedroom, the objective for today being to finish filling in all the gaps. I was drawn into helping the preparation for our wedding anniversary celebrations for a short while first. Fortunately, I was able to complete the planned work before tea time.

We had an early tea because Rachel was returning home this evening, recommencing work tomorrow. She had been a great help over the last couple of weeks.

## **Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

The objective for today was to do the necessary sanding and cleaning of the small cupboard in the back bedroom, then clean it, ready for painting. I also needed to buy some white, matt paint for the ceiling and some white, gloss paint for the door frame.

Danny, the electrician came just before 9 a.m. and we discussed my requirements for a new consumer unit as well as the wiring for the cooker. I gave him the documentation I had prepared and he said he would send me a quotation by e-mail. If I was happy for him to proceed, he could do the work on Thursday afternoon, which was fine with me.

I had a dental appointment at 11:50 a.m. I had planned to walk up to the dentist but it was raining so taking the car seemed to be the better option.

Until it was time to leave, I listened to the recording of Jazz Record Requests, or, to be more precise, the one track I liked out of the one-hour programme. The rest was alright as low, background music but not worth my time otherwise.

When I finished that, Jenny asked me to look for a display board for photographs but I could not find what she wanted.

I dealt with a backlog of e-mails, which involved a conversation with a very helpful representative from BT about the price increases from 1<sup>st</sup> April. It appeared that my two year contract was not a fixed price contract so I had no option but to accept the increases. Guess who wouldn't be renewing their contract with BT when it expired.

I helped with the wedding anniversary invitations, by which time it was approaching 5 p.m. So much for the back bedroom.

## **Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

I spent most of the morning helping Jenny clean the fridge compartment in the newer of our two fridge-freezers.

David, who we knew from our various activities at the old school and D-CaFF, called with his PC that was not working. It was a Dell Windows 10 system and there was some data on the C drive he would like to retrieve.

I put the PC on my desk in the conservatory and got as far as plugging it in and connecting a PS2 mouse and a PS2 keyboard. My options for a monitor were VGA, DVI or HDMI. Since my monitor only had a VGA connection, I plugged in a VGA cable but I could not connect it to my monitor because I was using it for my PC.

I left off for lunch and then went to resume work in the back bedroom. I smoothed down the filled bits in the ceiling of the small cupboard, filled in some more gaps around the coving, removed the cupboard door and sanded down the door jamb ready for painting and then started marking the position of the coving in the bedroom itself, leaving off at about 5 p.m.

### **Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

Jenny had planned a day out with her friend, Gwen and left to meet her so they could catch the 11 a.m. bus to Bury.

I started off my working day bringing the accounts up to date. The quotation for the electrical work for the cooker blew a big hole in this month's balance but it needed to be done. I had chosen the more expensive quotation, using a better quality (Wylex) consumer unit.

All the associated administrative work took me to almost lunchtime. It was amazing how much time was taken up with organisation, documentation, filing and planning, all of which made life easier in the longer term.

I made a late morning start on cleaning the cupboard in the back bedroom, wiping the ceiling, walls and door jamb with a sugar-soap solution to remove all the dust and dirt, leaving it, once dry, ready for painting.

I left off for a late lunch.

I resumed work in the back bedroom, continuing the marking of the position of the coving on the bedroom walls. I was interrupted by Jenny's return and ceased work at about 5 p.m., Jenny having made a welcome cup of tea. Just over half of the walls were marked.

### **Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

The plan had been to prepare for our electrician, Danny, to fit a new consumer unit, cable and switch in readiness for the new cooker and we started by emptying the cupboard next to the cooker in which the current switched sockets for the older fridge-freezer and cooker were situated. The items from the cupboard were stored in cardboard boxes in the dining room.

I was about to go outside to move the trailer out of the garage and prepare room for the electrician to work when I had a call on my mobile from him. Danny asked if he could come tomorrow morning at about 11 a.m. instead of this afternoon. I said we could work round that. We would be at D-CaFF from about 12:30 p.m. until about 3:30 p.m. but Rachel would be here. Danny said he could probably rig something for her to work from home while he was working on the consumer unit.

I changed my plans for the day and intended to resume work on the back bedroom but I needed the foot-stool from the kitchen and Jenny needed that because she was baking a cake for D-CaFF and needed to climb up to reach her flour from the kitchen cupboard.

I gave up and came to work on the laptop.

I left off for a while later to finish marking up the position of the coving.

### **Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

After breakfast, I cleared access to the consumer unit in the garage for Danny, the electrician. That meant leaving the car on the road and the trailer under the car port. Danny arrived a little later than expected and very helpfully said he had a board of 13 amp sockets he could wire into the supply and an extension reel we could use while he was working on replacing the consumer unit. I also used my extension cable, running the leads through the cat flap in the front door, so that we could keep the power on in the kitchen to both fridge-freezers.

The two hour job turned into almost five hours and, for most of the time, Jenny and I were helping out at the dementia café, D-CaFF. There was one anxious moment at the end when the garage ring circuit kept tripping its RCBO. Danny swiftly traced the fault to a nick in the sleeving of the neutral wire for the conservatory underfloor heating, which was on the ring circuit. That bare wire had been catching on the metal backing box, which was earthed, resulting in earth-leakage, causing the RCBO to trip. He fixed that and all was well.

When it came to labelling the circuits, there was one 6 amp circuit we could not identify and we wandered about testing all the lighting. A chance remark from Danny about loft lighting led me to think about the garage loft. Sure enough, we had found where the wire went!

Danny's last job was to install the cooker switch in the kitchen cupboard and he would be back when the cooker was delivered to connect it.

It was too late in the day to do anything with the garage.

### **Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

We went grocery shopping to Sainsbury's store at Heaton Park and then Tesco at Prestwich.

On the way out, we called at Jo's house to drop off the booking fee for the car-boot sale at the Canon Lewis Hall on 13<sup>th</sup> May. We stopped at John and Lynn's house a short distance down the road from Jo's house to deliver our wedding anniversary invitation.

We also called at the Crown Decorating Centre just off Dumer's Lane for some paint for the back bedroom and then at Matthew and Carrie's home with their wedding anniversary invitation.

It was late afternoon before we made it home and it was really too late and I was too tired to start work on tidying up the garage.

I had also forgotten to telephone Paul Davies to ask them if they could deliver the new cooker early on Thursday morning because Danny had a free slot around lunchtime to connect it up to the new switch.

After bringing in the groceries, I turned my attention to the laptop. Last evening, I had discovered it could no longer connect to the shared files on the desktop Windows 7 computer again.

I decided to have a look at the network traffic between the two devices using a protocol analyser and I downloaded what turned out to be a very useful, free protocol analyser called Wireshark. That told me that the laptop was trying to communicate with the desktop but the desktop was not replying. That suggested that the messages from the laptop were not reaching the application on the desktop and that suggested a firewall issue.

In fact the problem turned out to be an element of Norton Internet Security called Intrusion Prevention. Once this was turned off, the problem was resolved.

So that's a big Thank You to all those involved in the development and maintenance of Wireshark.

After all that frenzied activity, it was time for tea.

### **Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

With Rachel's help, I put up the first piece of coving in the back bedroom.

I reorganised the back bedroom so that I could start work on the 4 metre lengths. That wasn't easy and took ages.

### **Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

I painted the ceiling and coving in the small back bedroom cupboard with a thinned wash of white matt vinyl since the ceiling was bare plaster.

David collected his desktop PC I had fixed.

I spent the rest of the day on the laptop, doing some work for Jenny and some administrative work.

### **Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

It was not a good day. David brought his laptop back because it wouldn't boot up.

I discovered my laptop could not see the shared folder on the desktop again and this time I spent ages trying to figure out the problem without success.

I did resolve David's desktop fault. It did boot up if I reloaded the default BIOS configuration. The problem was that the BIOS was not remembering its settings when the machine was powered off and disconnected. The motherboard battery needed replacing.

A lady from Paul Davies telephoned to say they wanted to deliver the new cooker and collect the old one tomorrow instead of Thursday morning. After a few minutes thought,

I said they could deliver the new one but could not collect the old one since that would leave us without a cooker for a day or so. The problem is where we were going to put two cookers in our kitchen. I worked out a plan but it would be a little crowded. I also explained that the cooker would have to be brought through the garage, out onto the patio and in through the rear kitchen doors. I wasn't sure she fully appreciated the logistics. I also asked if the chaps delivering the cooker could telephone me when they were on their way. I wasn't planning on holding my breath.

### **Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

My first task of the day was to move the car off the drive and clear a route through the garage for the cooker delivery.

Jenny helped me move the old patio table out of the way to make manoeuvring room on the patio.

That done and the rubbish consigned to the waste bins, I returned to tidying up a few things on my laptop while waiting for the cooker delivery.

The cooker arrived around lunchtime and the two chaps from Paul Davis brought it through the garage, onto the patio and in through the kitchen patio door at the back as planned. Fortunately, the weather was good.

I carried on trying to resolve the sharing of files between Windows 11, Windows 10 and Windows 7 PCs. It was an absolute nightmare and I didn't get very far even though I spent most of the day on it. It was a pain in the proverbial.

### **Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

We were dragged out of bed by the 8 a.m. arrival of the gas man to cap off the supply. I wasn't expecting him until later, so we were totally unprepared, as I let him into the kitchen still wearing my pyjamas. He said Martin from Paul Davies had arranged everything. I did have a telephone conversation with Martin earlier in the week about the delivery of the cooker being yesterday instead of today and about the gas man and the electrician coming today but I didn't recall him mentioning 8 a.m.

It took the gas man about twenty minutes to remove the bayonet fitting and cap off the gas supply in the kitchen. When I explained I had the gas tap in the garage as well as the bayonet self-sealing fitting on the pipe in the kitchen on the cooker supply, the gas man, who was a very nice chap, said it didn't need capping off, really. I could have saved him a journey, an early start and my £40.

I took the gas man's details for future reference.

I took all the removable parts off the old cooker and manoeuvred it out of the way, end on to the entrance to the dining room, blocking the door. Fortunately, the dining room was still accessible from both the lounge and conservatory.

My first major job for the day was to clean the floor where the old cooker had been stood, ready to receive the new one. While I was preparing to scrub the floor, having vacuumed up all the loose bits, Jenny cleaned the unit sides, the back wall where it was not tiled, hidden by the cooker, and the tiles.

We left the floor to dry.

We removed all the packaging from the new cooker, except the packaging underneath, managed to move it to its slot and to turn it the right way round.

I spent a frantic hour or so trying to find out how to remove the packaging underneath the new cooker and, after lunch, I spoke to someone at SMEG. By this time, I had registered the new appliance with SMEG to activate its 5-year warranty. Nevertheless, I was advised to discuss the unpacking with my supplier, Paul Davies.

I rang the shop and spoke with my contact, Martin. As luck would have it, Martin was about to leave for an appointment in Ramsbottom and said he would call in on the way.

When Martin arrived, we managed to remove the packaging from underneath, working together and we had a chat about using the induction hob. Martin very helpfully tested out pans with a magnet and most of them were suitable for use on the new hob.

Danny, the electrician arrived to connect the cooker just before Martin left. Jenny mentioned to him that the doorbell was not working and he said he would look at it.

This was an extremely successful day which ended up with me on the floor fitting the front plinth on the cooker after Danny had helped me fit the upstand at the back, level the cooker and push it back into place.

Danny did some final checks and fixed the problem with my door bell, which was due to one of my low voltage wires having worked loose from the terminal block, before leaving.

I set the timer on the new cooker and Jenny and I put the kitchen back to some sort of order.

### **Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

We had a fairly good day grocery shopping at Unicorn and Waitrose in the south-west of Manchester with only a few delays due to congestion on the motorways and an accident in Bury on the way back.

I have to admit I had a lapse of concentration at one point, pulling out onto a roundabout near Waitrose when a vehicle was approaching from my right and to which I should have given way. Fortunately, it did not result in an incident. Thankfully, the other driver was alert, if somewhat annoyed and I can't say I blamed him or her. Everyone makes mistakes from time to time and I did not pretend to be an exception.

I helped Jenny familiarise herself with the new cooker induction hob in preparing our evening meal.

## **Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

We prepared the new cooker ovens for stoving (i.e. burning off the manufacturing deposits prior to use) and then made ready to go in the garage and clean the empty chest freezer before starting the stoving process. We had to leave both ovens on maximum heat for an hour with the kitchen patio doors wide open and the cooker-hood fan on full speed.

It took us the hour to clean the freezer inside and out, or, at least, the outside parts I could access. Jenny brought the door seal in to wash after the stoving process had finished.

After lunch, we washed all the accessories for the ovens and put them inside, ready for use and put the kitchen back to normal, having removed all the items that might have been affected by the fumes produced by the stoving process into the dining room earlier.

I helped Jenny familiarise herself with the oven controls and to prepare tea. Each oven had two controls, one to set the program and one to set the temperature. It didn't help that the instruction booklet that came with the cooker did not explain what the program symbols meant. I had to look online for that information and that was not up to date.

## **Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

I resumed work in the back bedroom, giving the small cupboard ceiling and coving a coat of Crown Brilliant White Matt paint and giving the small cupboard door jamb a coat of white undercoat.

I prepared and printed off a table of oven temperatures for Jenny. She was having difficulty working out the correct cooker settings from old cook books with recipes in degrees Fahrenheit. Using a fan oven made it a little more complicated. The table comprised a list of gas settings, their corresponding degrees Fahrenheit and Centigrade ( $^{\circ}\text{F} - 32$  and the result multiplied by  $\frac{5}{9}$ ) and the latter modified when using the fan (deducting  $20^{\circ}\text{C}$ ).

I had a cup of tea and a pear for lunch while listening to a recording of last Sunday's Jazz Record Requests, the 1 hour programme taking all of 15 minutes to discard everything, since none of it was to my taste. It was all far too modern, even the one track with Humphrey Lyttelton.

While this week's JRR was being recorded, I sauntered up the road to check on the nearby grit bin. Our village chairperson, Julie Southworth, had sent me an e-mail asking me about it because it had some rubbish on top of the grit. I subsequently replied to Julie's enquiry, stating that I thought it was council-owned and maintained and I would try to find time to clean out the rubbish.

I checked on the small cupboard in the back bedroom. I thought the ceiling and coving would need another coat of paint. I could do that tomorrow and gloss the door jamb afterwards.

I decided to have another look at the laptop's refusal to connect to my desktop shared folders. I double checked all the network settings and, having removed the Netbios over TCP/IP setting, I reintroduced it. Lo and behold, I could see my shares on my desktop again! I had no idea what the problem was or why it seemed to resolve itself.

Since Rachel and Jenny were unable to find somewhere suitable for Mother's Day afternoon tea, they both made a very nice afternoon tea at home.

Since we had a smart meter, I didn't bother reading the meters to submit a meter reading this month, as I normally did on the 19<sup>th</sup>. I thought I'd wait and see what happened.

### **Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

I had planned on giving the back bedroom cupboard another coat of white matt paint on the ceiling and coving since it was still a little patchy and then glossing the door frame.

Unfortunately, I didn't feel too well, with some stomach ache and a touch of the runs. Also, we were going for lunch with Matt, Carrie, Bob and Marie at 1 p.m.

After a hair and beard trimming session, shower, the routine morning jobs, dealing with my affliction, trying and failing to remove the annoying Bing button from Microsoft Edge and contacting Paul Davies to leave a message for Martin asking when the old cooker would be collected and the new worktops and sink installed, it was 11:30 a.m.

I spent the rest of my day on various bits of administration.

### **Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

I spent most of my day processing pictures from our pre-digital albums for our 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

### **Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023**

After the usual pot-washing session and hanging out the washing lines on the lovely, warm, fine, sunny morning, one of the very few this month, we went round the estate delivering the latest village leaflets which John Southworth had dropped off a couple of days earlier.

I prepared to continue processing the pictures ready for printing for our 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

I should have attended a village committee meeting tonight but I didn't make it.

### **Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023**

We spent more time going through the photograph albums, choosing and doctoring photos for printing to display on our big day.

### **Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

We went grocery shopping to Sainsbury's store at Heaton Park and Tesco at Prestwich. We blew our weekly grocery budget at the former, although that did include six bottles of Yellowtail wine that was on offer as well as a bottle of wine as one of the quiz prizes and some other extras for our anniversary gathering. Fortunately, we had accumulated quite a few Nectar points, reducing our bill by about 20%.

That trip and a few routine jobs at home, such as both of us tackling the challenge of cooking fish for the first time on our new cooker, filled our day and the excellent tea provided a nice end to a busy day.

### **Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

We started the day with Rachel's help to move the old Leisure Range cooker out of the kitchen, where it was blocking the door to the dining room, into the garage, since Paul Davies of Bolton had failed to collect it as expected on Thursday. That went well.

I finally replaced the CR2932 battery on the motherboard of David's desktop. That burst into life when powered on instead of telling me it had lost its BIOS settings, having been unplugged for over a week. I let David know and he said he would collect it on Monday morning.

The rest of our day was spent searching for more photographs and I found a few more pictures that were stored on the computer. We made a list of what we needed to display them, once printed and other items we needed for the forthcoming event.

Last evening, I had started tidying up the recorded TV programmes we had watched and I carried on with that as we approached teatime.

### **Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

Rachel and I helped sort out the mixture quantities for the two cakes Jenny was baking for our wedding anniversary, one being a "5" and the other a "0". I typed up the recipe and left it for Rachel to check.

I had to leave off the latter part to drive Rachel and Jenny down to Summerseat Garden Centre and I potted round while Jenny purchased what she needed.

After a late lunch at home, I worked on the number cake recipe ingredient quantities for Jenny, eventually returning to my revision of my web site.

### **Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

Jenny and I went to Bury. Jenny had a podiatrist appointment and then we went to print off some pictures at Max Spielman and to buy some items for our wedding anniversary.

We finished off with the usual session at Tesco.

After another late lunch, I did the odd job for Jenny and a bit of administrative work before preparing to attend the Island Lodge meeting at 7:30 p.m.

I went to the meeting as arranged only to discover it had been cancelled! If I had received the said cancellation notice from our village chairperson, I had forgotten to delete the entry in my diary. I didn't recall receiving the e-mail and couldn't find it subsequently following a quick search.

I returned home.

## **Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

My morning was spent doing odd jobs here and there. Our afternoon was more eventful.

We went into Ramsbottom for a few grocery items and a tour of the charity shops. I failed to find the 10mm diameter, 3m lengths of dowelling I needed in the hardware shop so we headed down to B&Q at Heap Bridge in Bury.

At B&Q, I purchased 3 2.4 metre lengths 9 mm diameter of dowelling, since they didn't have any that was 10mm in diameter either. I also bought a new wooden mitre block. I looked for a 9 mm diameter masonry drill bit without success.

We came back and called at Tesco for some flowers Jenny wanted but they did not have what she needed. She was somewhat disappointed, having seen them in Tesco in Ramsbottom.

We called at the small Tesco on the way up through Tottington but that shop did not have any either.

I suggested we called to the Co-Op in Tottington and Jenny found exactly what she wanted there.

And so ended a long day.

## **Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

My morning was spent cutting the dowelling in half and fixing five lengths into the weights that had previously anchored helium balloons, the objective being to use these to display non-helium balloons on tables at our anniversary meal.

After lunch I started going through the TV listings for the coming week to decide what to record for future viewing.

I left off because there was a programme on 5Select I wanted to record and that channel was no longer broadcasting on terrestrial Freeview. I had another look at the old Ross satellite tuner I had and tried to configure it to pick up the channel on Freesat but without success. I decided to consign the tuner to the bin and try to find another means of picking up satellite channels from which I could record.

### **Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

I spent most of my day helping with the preparation for our 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

### **Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

The big day had arrived. The plan to put balloons on the top of the 1.2m lengths of dowelling that Rachel had painted in gold and which I had secured in the weights from helium balloons, suitably wrapped by Rachel, was, I thought, not as stable as expected so I chased around frantically to obtain some 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary helium balloons with weights attached. Joani Beale from D-CaFF gave me Louise Isherwood's contact details, since she supplied the balloons to D-CaFF. I contacted Louise but she was unable to respond until early afternoon by which time I had contacted the events team at the Red Hall. That all worked out well. After subsequently speaking with Louise, she liaised with the events team and everything was sorted.

I managed to finish off the list of TV recordings for next week and programmed those while waiting for Anne and Wilf (Jenny's brother) to arrive in Bury, coming from Sheffield. I had arranged to collect them and take them to the Red Hall where they were staying overnight.

After dropping off Anne and Wilf, we came home to pack the car and returned to the Red Hall to prepare the room for our guests at our 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary celebration meal. We started that about half an hour later than intended and we discovered that Rebecca, Jenny's great niece and her husband Graham were staying there too, having driven up from Plymouth. They all joined us to help decorate the room. A young lady also arrived with our balloons.

We had a very good meal with excellent company and Rachel had prepared a quiz for afterwards. It was almost midnight by the time we returned home.